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9

28 February 1966

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Comment on Newsweek March 7 cover story on China

1. This is a fair presentation of the current situation with regard to the discrepancy between China's long term intentions and its current capabilities. It puts in proper perspective the caution with which the Chinese Communists approach fighting situations, despite their loud protestations of belligerency.

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2. There are a few minor factual items concerning China's armed strength that are not quite accurate, but they do not appreciably hinder the article's main thrust. There are not one million troops opposite Taiwan, but about 200,000 directly opposite and about 450,000 if one spreads "opposite" far enough. The Chinese do not manufacture the T-34 tank, but did at one time manufacture the T-34. The Chinese do not have two G-class submarines, but only one. On the whole, despite a few objectionable bits of "Newsweekese" that sensationalize the Washington-Peking confrontation, a reasonably good piece.

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